

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification by changing the first sentence following the title to read as follows:

Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §120 and/or 35 U.S.C. 119(e), Applicants hereby claim This application ~~claims priority from priority from presently copending~~ the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No.60/313,604 entitled "MECHANICAL FASTENING SYSTEM HAVING ORTHOGONALLY ORIENTED ENGAGEMENT MEMBERS" and filed on August 20, 2001, in the names of Jason R. Cole, Denise R. Couture, Yvette L. Hammonds, Valerie R. Kurbec, Allan J. Krueger, Jason J. Manders, Shelley R. Rasmussen, David C. Strandberg, William G. Stratton, Manuel A. Torres, Jennifer A. Trottier, and Robert J. Waldron (Docket No. 16,508).

Amend the paragraph starting on page 8, line 18 as follows:

In particular configurations, a majority of the plurality of non-isotropic engagement members have their engagement openings directed substantially orthogonal to an attachment direction. Generally speaking, the attachment direction is the direction in which the respective first and second portions of the article are brought together into an overlapping and interengaging relationship. Thus, in FIGS. 1A, 1D and 2 1D' , the attachment direction is generally a direction having a cross-directional vector-component along the lateral direction 24 and toward the medial line 40 of the article. Accordingly, the plurality of non-isotropic engagement members would have their engagement openings directed substantially parallel with the medial line 40 of the article.

Amend the paragraph starting on page 9, line 25 as follows:

FIGS. 1A-E are illustrations of an exemplary sanitary napkin with fasteners 36 in the form of wings or flaps. More particularly, FIGS. 1A, 1D, 1D' and 1E show at At least one first fastener component 70 is attached to the wing 36 and at least one cooperating fastener component 72 is attached to the opposite wing 36. In some embodiments of the invention, the first fastener component 70 and the cooperating fastener component 72 may be attached to each wing such that the wings may be fastened without concern for overlapping the wings in any particular order. In other yet embodiments, the wing may be formed partially or entirely of the cooperating fastener component 72. FIG. 1C is an illustration of the sanitary napkin with its wings 36 or flaps secured around an undergarment or panty "P". The arrows labeled "A" generally represent the attachment direction. The arrows labeled "O" generally represent the

direction that is orthogonal to the attachment direction. It should be understood that this orthogonal direction is thought to be generally or substantially along or in the plane of the article although in some specific cases, it include a minor Z-direction component.

Amend the paragraph starting at page 10, line 25 as follows:

The following is a brief description of the orientation direction with respect to the lengthwise, longitudinal direction 26 and the lateral cross-wise direction depicted in FIGS. 1A, 1D and 1D'. In one exemplary sanitary napkin, the ~~orienting~~ orientation of the axis of maximal engagement of the first fastener component in the attachment direction meant orienting the first fastener component so its axis of maximal engagement was in the cross-machine direction or the lateral cross-direction 24 shown in FIGS. 1A, 1D and 1D'. Thus, for that sanitary napkin, the ~~orienting~~ orientation of the axis of maximal engagement of the first fastener component generally orthogonal to the attachment direction meant orienting the first fastener component so its axis of maximal engagement was in the machine direction or the lengthwise, longitudinal direction 26 shown in FIGS. 1A, 1D and 1D'.

Amend the paragraph starting on page 16, line 7 as follows:

The absorbent body structure 32 can comprise a matrix of hydrophilic fibers, such as a web of cellulosic fluff, mixed with particles of high-absorbency material. In particular arrangements, absorbent body 32 may comprise a mixture of superabsorbent hydrogel-forming particles and synthetic polymer meltblown fibers, or a mixture of superabsorbent particles with a fibrous coform material comprising a blend of natural fibers and/or synthetic polymer fibers. The superabsorbent particles may be substantially homogeneously mixed with the hydrophilic fibers, or may be nonuniformly mixed. For example, the concentrations of superabsorbent particles may be arranged in a non-step-wise gradient through a substantial portion of the thickness (z-direction) of the absorbent structure, with lower concentrations toward the bodyside of the absorbent body and relatively higher concentrations toward the outside of the absorbent structure. Suitable z-gradient configurations are described in U.S.P. 4,699,823 issued October 13, 1987 to Kellenberger et al., the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in a manner that is consistent (not in conflict) with the present description. Alternatively, the concentrations of superabsorbent particles may be arranged in a non-step-wise gradient, through a substantial portion of the thickness (z-direction) of the absorbent structure, with higher concentrations toward the bodyside of the absorbent body and relatively

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lower concentrations toward the outside of the absorbent structure. The superabsorbent particles may also be arranged in a generally discrete layer within the matrix of hydrophilic fibers. In addition, two or more different types of superabsorbent may be selectively positioned at different locations within or along the fiber matrix.